

ROZA DAM



Overview



- 72,000 irrigated acres over 95 miles
- 80% perennial crops (tree fruit, hops, wine and juice grapes) and 20% annual crops (silage corn, pasture, row crops)
- Row crops support a large dairy industry
- 2nd and 3rd generation family farms
- Harvest starts in late April and runs into November



Drought Management



- 60% water supply forecast on April 6th, spring weather conditions can change the forecast for the better or worse quickly. The March forecast was 73% supply.
- Leased water transfers from SVID (Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District) would be needed if the forecast supply drops further.
- Planting decisions are being made now by SVID farmers. The water forecast is uncertain due to the weather and the many moving parts in the USBR storage system Roza does not yet know how much water will be available in the peak months of July and August.
- Mid-season canal shutdowns occurred in 1994, 2001 and 2005 droughts.

Water Management



- Prior droughts were cost shared 50% between Roza and Ecology.
- \$3.8M total in water lease costs in 2005. Water lease costs have increased and the amount of available water has decreased since 2005.
- Water demand for all crops make it more difficult and costly to obtain water to lessen the impacts of reduced water supply (e.g. there is much less pasture land to idle in a drought today than in the past).
- Ecology has been working this issue with us for months.
- Drought relief wells are an important tool for Roza growers.

Roza Finances



- \$10M annual District budget.
- \$2.4M in annual capital improvements to conserve water (piping, lining, sealing, etc).
- \$3.5M in the District's Drought Emergency Fund...next year could be as bad for water supply (or worse!).

